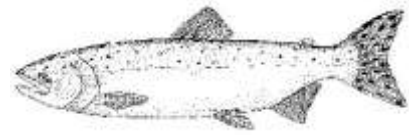

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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Petersburg Area Office
16 Sing Lee Alley
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Date: July 1, 2013
Time: 4:00 p.m.

2013 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE #1

The Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are ongoing projects that assess pink and chum salmon abundance of fish returning to Section 9-B and District 10. Test fishing at Point Gardner occurs one day per week for 5 weeks starting in statistical week 26. The Kingsmill test fishery occurs once per week for four weeks starting in statistical week 27. The Point Gardner test fishery has proven to be a very good indicator for pink salmon returning to Frederick Sound and lower Stephens Passage, particularly to District 10. The Kingsmill test fishery is used as an indicator for runs returning to Frederick Sound and to eastern, lower Chatham Straits (Section 9-B and District 10). The results from the Kingsmill test fishery are generally less conclusive since the test fishery will catch both fish heading north to Frederick Sound and south to Rowan and Tebenkof Bays.

This year the F/V *St. Janet* will be conducting the Point Gardner test fishery and the F/V *Siren* will be conducting the Kingsmill Point test fishery. Both boats have conducted the test fisheries in the past and have a great deal of experience fishing the test fishing areas.

Point Gardner: The first test fishery was conducted at Point Gardner on Friday, June 28, 2013, by the F/V *St. Janet*. All seven scheduled sets were completed. Pink salmon catch was below average; however, chum salmon catch was well above average. The pink salmon sex ratio was 83% male, which is above the average of 77% for stat week 26. Chum salmon were not sampled for sex ratios this test fishing period. King, sockeye, and coho salmon are also caught during test fisheries but are incidental and minor in relation to the pink and chum salmon harvest.

Kingsmill: No test fishery in statistical week 26.

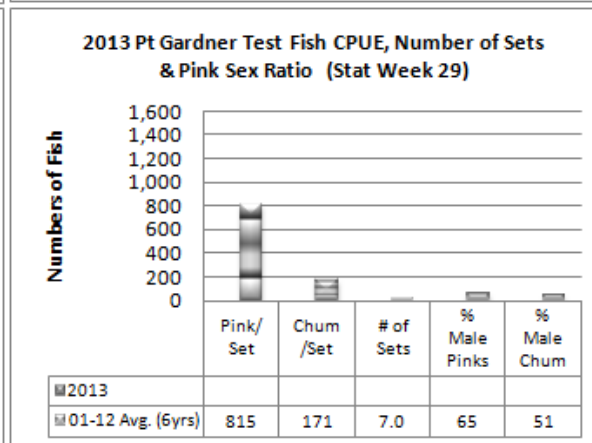
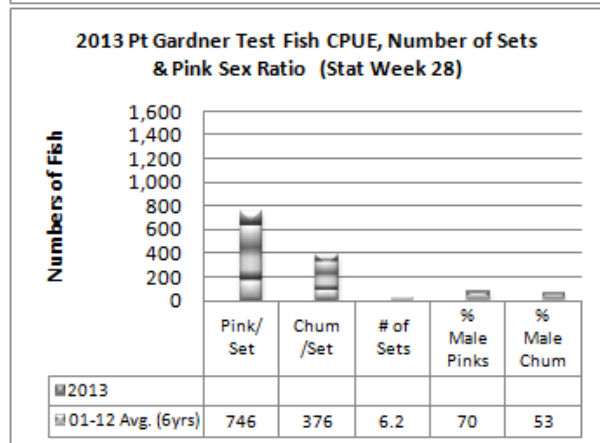
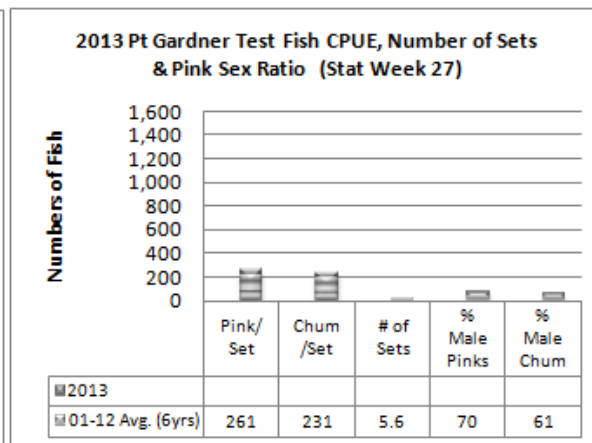
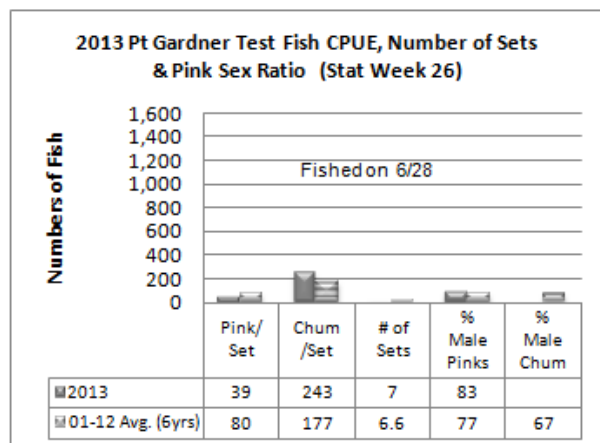
Run Strength: The pink salmon run passing by the test fisheries at the entrance to Frederick Sound appears to be weak or later than normal as indicated by the weaker than average catch. The chum run passing through the test areas appears to be strong as indicated by the higher than average catch. However, this is only the first test fishing period. Next week's test fisheries will give a much better indication of run strength for both pink and chum salmon.

Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the first half of the run and females are more numerous during the last half of the run. Comparing this year's percentage of males in the fishery this week, to the historical average, provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. The Point Gardner test fishery had a higher percentage of males than normal indicating the pink salmon run may be slightly later than normal.

Average Weights:

-Point Gardner: pinks: 3.2 pounds; chums: 7.8 pounds.

Next Test Fisheries: Both the Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are scheduled for Friday July 5.



Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
Regional Seine	747-8522	747-8522		747-8522	747-8522			
Seine Hotline	225-6870	772-3700		747-8522	465-8905			